



Additional Information

The reading, math, and science portions of the HSPE are administered for the first time in the spring of the student's 10th grade year. The writing portion of the examination is administered for the first time in the fall semester of the student's 11th grade year.

Scores for the examination are reported to districts/schools no later than 28 days after the testing contractor receives the answer documents from the districts/schools.

Students may retake these tests multiple times. Prior to the third and any subsequent attempts, students must receive remedial study and/or be enrolled in an approved course of study with the intent of completing requirements for a high school diploma. **(See NAC 389.057 and 389.661.)**

Assessment, Program Accountability & Curriculum
Nevada Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89701-5096

2009 - 2010 Nevada High School Proficiency Examination Program

Reading, Writing,
Mathematics and
Science



Nevada Department of Education
Dr. Keith Rheault
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Assessment, Program Accountability &
Curriculum
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The Nevada High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) is aligned to Nevada State Content Standards adopted by the State Board of Education. The HSPE contains sections for reading, mathematics, science, and writing. **Students must achieve a proficiency level of *Meets Standards* or *Exceeds Standards* in order to pass each portion of the exam.** Additional information on proficiency levels, as well as state standards, can be found on the Nevada Department of Education website: www.doe.nv.gov.

The mathematics, reading, and science portion of the HSPE are composed of multiple-choice questions that measure the student's content knowledge at several levels of complexity.

Students demonstrate *reading* proficiency by responding to a variety of text types and lengths based on:

- Word Analysis
- Literary Text
- Expository Text

Students demonstrate *math* proficiency by responding to questions based on knowledge and skills pertaining to:

- Numbers and Computation
- Patterns, Functions, and Algebra
- Measurement
- Spatial Relationships, Geometry, and Logic
- Data Analysis

Students demonstrate *science* proficiency by responding to questions based on knowledge and skills pertaining to:

- Physical Science
- Life Science
- Earth/Space Science
- The Nature of Science

The writing portion of the HSPE requires students to demonstrate writing proficiency by responding to two topics: narrative or descriptive **and** persuasive or expository. Student writing is scored by State of Nevada educators using a six-point scoring guide.

Instructional materials designed to familiarize students with the exam, released writing scoring guides and sample prompts, as well as Item Specification documents, can be found on the Nevada Department of Education website: www.doe.nv.gov.

All writing prompts and test questions are developed by Nevada educators for Nevada students. All prompts, items and reading passages have been approved by bias review committees comprised of Nevada citizens and educators. Standards are available on the NDE website: www.doe.nv.gov.

Information regarding the Alternative Writing Assessment and Alternative Science Assessment can be found at www.doe.nv.gov.

2009 - 2010

HSPE

Testing Dates

11th/12th/Adult Reading, Math & Science
November 16 - 20, 2009

11th/12th/Adult Writing
November 18, 2009

10th/11th/12th/Adult Reading, Math & Science
March 8 - 12, 2010

11th/12th/Adult Writing
March 10, 2010

12th/Adult Reading, Math & Science
May 3 - 5, 2010

12th/Adult Writing
May 5, 2010

12th/Adult Reading, Math & Science
July 12 - 16, 2010

12th/Adult Writing
July 14, 2010

In order to receive a standard high school diploma, students must pass all portions of the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination and meet all other district and state requirements.